

## THE TIMES.

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THE TIMES COMPANY,

Richmond, Va.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1890.

## DUTY OF THE HOUR.

The personal composition of the Republican meeting which was held in Henrico county court-house on Thursday, and the disorder and confusion attending its proceedings, all serve to illustrate the degraded elements with which the intelligence and property interests of this community have to contend in every political struggle.

When we contemplate such an assembly as that, an assembly without a single claim to the consideration of any respectable man, however unbiased and dispassionate in his judgment, and recognizing that it was a representative gathering of Republicans in the metropolitan district of the State, a district peculiarly typical of all that is best and most honorable in our Southern civilization, it is not surprising that the gorgs of every honest man, of every man who has one spark of local patriotism, and they must be extremely numerous, signifies the future overthrow of the party beyond a reasonable doubt.

## TIN-PLATE MANUFACTURE.

One of the very worst features of the new tariff is that part which advances the rate on tin-plate, an article that is used in a great variety of industries that furnish employment for myriads of operatives. The imposition of the increased duty was at the instance of a few men who claimed that it was impossible for the tin-plate manufacturers of this country to compete successfully with the English manufacturers in the same branch of business.

Now that the tax has been increased, several companies have been formed in great haste in order to obtain a share of the harvest which is to be reaped from this infamous legislation; or probably it would be a more correct figure to compare these companies to robbers who are eager to snatch a portion of the plunder wrung by the tin-plate tax from the millions who have occasion to use tin-plate.

It is reported that the most extensive tin-plate plant in the world is at once to be erected in Baltimore by a corporation whose members have subscribed a capital stock of \$7,000,000, and who are aiming to get a monopoly of the manufacture of tin-plate in the United States. In other words, as if the tax did not in itself raise the cost of tin-plate to the consumer sufficiently high already, this new company, supported by a practically unlimited capital, proposes to ship in, and after driving all competitors from the American market, raise the cost to the miserable consumer still higher, and obtain thereby a profit on their article of manufacture, which will be as iniquitous in its way, and probably as great, as the profit of the sugar or the standard oil trust.

Compare the personal character of the convention that nominated George D. Wise with this disgraceful assembly, which should never have been permitted to defile the precincts of a Virginia Court of Justice by its moral and physical contact; where is the man who, after the institution of such a comparison, can imagine, however narrow or blinding he may be, that he would have a subsequent right to associate with honorable citizens if he should throw his personal influence on the side of the hybrid and corrupt faction known as the local Republican party? Its members are the social and political enemies of the community, the foes of its prosperity, with the disposition if not the power to trample under foot every institution that distinguishes this city from a Port Arthur.

It is the duty of every man in this district who has the slightest regard for the interests of the community, the safety of his home and family, and the preservation of his own well-being, to cast his ballot for Mr. Wise, whether there is any organized opposition to him or not. All that the average citizen can do to shew his hostility to the forces so characteristically represented in the Republican meeting of Thursday is to vote for the Democratic candidate for Congress, and to induce every man who knows to imitate his example. That candidate is the exponent and spokesman of every conservative element in the district, of its intelligence and prosperity, and of all those obligations of citizenship which raise a civilized people above a barbarous people.

It is a sacred duty incumbent upon every voter, whether he admits it or not, to use whatever influence he may possess to increase the majority which Mr. Wise will secure in November. The larger that majority will be the rebuke to the Republican conspirators who are waiting for the first opportunity to fasten upon the Southern people an election measure expressly designed to rob them of the right to give free expression of their will.

The cloud of local minnows of the Republican party are prepared to give these National political Goths and Vandals all the assistance in their power in the hope of reaping some personal advantage from it and in order to gratify their personal ambitions.

## DEBARING THE KNIGHTS.

Comment on the Action of the New York Central Railroad.

(New York Herald.)

The New York Central issued an order yesterday which is as startling as it is radical.

Third Vice-President Webb declares that the road will not only wish to have failed to extend the scope of civil service reform, as it was solemnly pledged to do, but also with consciously and intentionally violating several of the most important of the civil service rules which had been established when Mr. Cleveland was in control of our National affairs.

The force of this condemnation is very much increased when the fact is recalled that the League is composed of men who belong to both parties, and who are active supporters of their respective party organizations when ordinary political issues are to be decided.

The resolutions condemning the Republican party in this particular instance could not have been expressed with so much vigor. The whole course of the late Assistant Postmaster-General, Mr. Clarkson, was in the most shameful violation of the letter and the spirit of the civil service law, made all the more so by the cool contempt with which he has referred to the organization.

The present collector of Baltimore, a notorious Republican machine politician, has in the last few days become very conspicuously by his public references to the civil service law as unworthy of attention, an opinion which he has illustrated in action by deliberately turning out men who had held office under him, not by his selection, but by regular appointment after passing examinations provided for by the terms of law on the National statute-book.

No subordinate officer of our government would have the boldness and the effrontery to take such a position as this unless he was fully assured of the countenance and sympathy of his superiors. It is true, the case, and there is no reason to doubt that it is, what is to be thought of the National Administration, which, sworn to administer and see administered the laws of the land, calmly overlooks their wanted violation.

## HAYES AND THE TARIFF.

No one will be disposed to cast the shadow of a doubt on the devotion of ex-President Hayes to the Republican party or his loyalty to its general principles. He has no reason to love the Democratic party, and not the smallest motive to promote its interests by expressing approval of its conduct or admiring for any of its fundamental doctrines, and yet in a recent interview with a representative of one of the leading New York dailies, referring to the McKinley bill, he condemned it without proposal.

"My regret is," he said, "to the extent that I am to all our best interests, and it will do an infinite amount of harm, I cannot understand how public men can be so blind to the interests of the country at large as to pass such a bill. It is annihilating to the Republican party. It is the most terrible blow that has been struck at

that party during its existence. I can only say that I hope such a policy will die out surely and soon, but I cannot shut my eyes to the evil that will be done before such protection as this finds a remedy."

These are strong words coming from one who occupies a prominent and distinguished position in the past history of the Republican party as the ex-president does, and they are entitled to additional weight, not only because they proceed from a man who has, for a number of years, been removed from all the turmoil of active participation in politics, but also because they are the utterances of a party man, who nevertheless expects no further reward at the hands of his political associates.

Independently of all these different considerations, which are well calculated to add to the force of the words quoted, they are unquestionably true and accurate in themselves. Mr. Hayes was entirely right in saying that the passage of the McKinley bill will injure the interests of the country most seriously, and thereby jeopardize the prospects of the Republican party. If the American people shall contendedly submit to the iniquities that will certainly attend the operation of the new tariff law, and shall continue the party which framed that law, in the control of National affairs, then they are fully prepared to accept supinely any form of tyranny that may be imposed upon them.

We do not believe that the great mass of Americans are ready to sink to such a point of degradation, and one of the grounds for this conviction is the party which has been raised by such men as ex-President Hayes, a Republican, whose natural disposition is to act with his party, and to justify its course. But it has gone too far for Republicans of his conservative stamp, and the secession on this issue of all the Republi- cans who entertain the same opinions, and they must be extremely numerous, signifies the future overthrow of the party beyond a reasonable doubt.

THE KNIGHTS.

Comment on the Action of the New York Central Railroad.

(New York Herald.)

The New York Central issued an order yesterday which is as startling as it is radical.

Pretty Samoan Girl.

She Demoralizes the Crew of the Barkentine May.

The barkentine May, owned by Nick

Richard of this city, recently arrived from a little portmanteau, the details of which have been received in this city from the officers of the vessel. The May sailed from Port Moody for San Francisco on the 1st instant, and is expected here in a few days. According to going north the day before yesterday the barkentine May, having been in the San Francisco harbor, was captured by a crew of Chinese pirates who were intent on robbing her.

So important a step could not have been taken without the concurrence of the entire management. It therefore indicates the deliberate attitude of the road toward organization on the part of the wage earners, and it is evident that it is impossible to impose arbitrary restrictions upon the freedom of its members in seeking or accepting employment.

The action of the Central will probably follow in due time by other roads, and it will be generally agreed by the public, whose relations to the matter are wholly unintentional, that in these instances their application is warranted, to prevent the destruction of the Reading Road to the Reading and, to the contrary, the employees of that company were never better satisfied nor paid better than they have been since they were relieved from the organization of the Knights of Labor.

A few seconds passed and suddenly a hoarse yell of terror burst upon the ears of the waiting men. "Tim! oh, God, Tim!"

Then silence, then another yell, and a sound like a thousand falling stones.

At the test hole a dark opening through the main gallery led to a long torch went out and they were left in darkness.

One of the oldest and most experienced miners volunteered to go to the nearest entrance and to call for help. At the same time the company took the opportunity for a few minutes' rest. For a few seconds after the footsteps of their comrade died away none spoke. Then a voice which all recognized as Jack's broke the silence. "There, boys, there goes some with a hand full of dynamite." And Jack's eyes were turned toward the gallery, but nothing met their gaze. "You had better come back, but thinking that you had seen a man shot, he had not been afraid to let me know that the explosion was given the matter.

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